

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 6, 10, 14 and 15 have been amended.

Claims 3, 5, and 9 have been canceled, without prejudice.

Claims 16 – 21 have been added.

The amendments are supported by the specification and the original claims. No new matter has been added by any of the amendments.

Rejections

Claims 1, 2, and 6 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as anticipated by Stahl, US Patent No. 5,060,330 ("Stahl"). (Paper No. 20090114 at 2.)

Claims 3, 4, 11, 14, and 15 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over Stahl in view of Edgar, US Patent No. 3,793,659 ("Edgar"). (Id. at 3.)

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over Stahl in view of Bass, GB 778,807 ("Bass"). (Id.)

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over Stahl in view of Mackliet, US Patent No. 2,388,790. (Id.)

Objection/Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 5, 8, 10, 12 and 13 as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if written in independent form. (Id. at 4.)

The Examiner is thanked for the indication of allowability of claims 5, 8, 10, 12 and 13.

The Examiner acknowledged the following with regard to the claims indicated to be allowable:

Regarding claim 5, the prior art does not disclose a spring steel anchored in the body.

Regarding claim 8, the prior art does not disclose cover plates as claimed.

Regarding claims 10, 12 and 13, the prior art does not disclose two pressure pads with two pairs of lobes.

(Id.)

Response to Rejections and Objections

To forward prosecution in the present application, the claims have been amended such that they contain the subject matter of one or more of the claims indicated to be allowable by the Examiner.

In addition, new claims have been added that incorporate the subject matter of one or more of the claims indicated to be allowable.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of original claims 3 and 5.

New claim 16 incorporates the subject matter of original claims 1 and 8.

New claim 19 incorporates the subject matter of original claims 1, 3, 4, 9, and 10.

New claims 17 and 18 incorporate the subject matter of original claims 12 and 13, respectively, as well as claim 4 and a portion of claim 10, and depend from new claim 16 (which incorporates the subject matter of original claims 1 and 8).

New claims 20 and 21 incorporate the subject matter of original claims 12 and 13, respectively, and depend from new claim 19 (which incorporates the subject matter of original claims 1, 3, 4, 9, and 10).

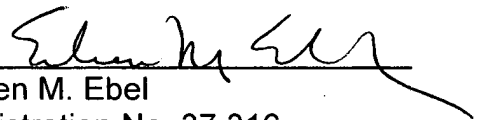
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections and objections have been rendered moot. It is also submitted that the new claims are allowable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and objections are requested.

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this paper, please contact the undersigned.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 18, 2009.


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Respectfully submitted,

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